



Interstate 11 Sign-planting
Remarks by Governor Janice K. Brewer
Friday, March 21, 2014, 2 p.m.
Hoover Dam Visitors Center

Thank you, Director Halikowski.

Let me begin by recognizing the excellent cooperation and work of our two states' Transportation Departments for making this day possible -- and helping launch the campaign to make Interstate 11 a reality.

And thank you, Governor Sandoval, for your leadership and multi-state support in this effort.

I also want to recognize the work and support of Congressman Steven Horsford, and Nevada Transportation Director Rudy Malfabon in helping advance this needed project.

I-11 will serve a vital role in commerce and trade – not only for Arizona and Nevada, but for the country and neighboring nations.

Equally important, it will connect the two biggest cities in the United States without an interstate between them: Phoenix and Las Vegas.

Moreover, I-11 will be the first direct trade route from Western Mexico to Canada through our two great states.

We know transportation is a primary driver of commerce and tourism – and we should continually seek to enhance our economic competitiveness.

By facilitating the movement of goods and people through a direct Mexico-to-Canada interstate, I-11 will pay dividends in fostering this crucial mission and boosting important international partnerships.

**And -- given that Mexico is Arizona's largest trading partner -
- I want Arizona and Nevada to be the preferred route for**

companies shipping goods and products between our two regions.

We have been working in both states to make this a reality.

In Arizona, we've worked with the federal government to expand the Mariposa Port of Entry in Nogales, and create a new commercial port of entry at San Luis II.

I firmly believe in the Interstate-11 project and know it will serve to help us compete as a region in the global economy.

This magnificent sign – that we are unveiling here today -- is proof of our confidence and long-term commitment to seeing this vision to fruition.

Thank you again, Governor Sandoval, as well as everyone who is working so hard to make this route a reality.